

GOLDEN RETRIEVER
RESCUE OF MID-FLORIDA™

TALES OF GOLD



Since the very first dog GRRMF rescued in 1991, our organization continues to be committed to each dog - for the life of the dog. Our dedicated Village of volunteers are always available to support our foster and adoptive families. Adopting a special needs dog can be one of the most rewarding experiences. We would like to share with you a recent post adoption update from Blue Jag's forever family ...

"Blue is so much more than his medical issues," reports Valerie, "he is the best dog we have ever had. Our hope is that hearing about our journey may encourage others to adopt a special needs dog. We knew Blue experienced seizures, but we were not prepared for seven grand mals in one day. Our regular vet put him on an effective medication and we also took Blue to a specialty vet for acupuncture treatments. We brought a dog pressure point (shiatzu) chart with us and my husband and the vet spent 45 minutes down on the floor locating the points so my husband could press them at home. Ken actually stopped a seizure at a later date, and he uses the calming points when Blue's respiration goes up. I also did a lot of internet research on herbal interventions, diet and possible triggers for seizures. We eliminated all use of pesticides in our home and yard and changed his diet to homemade, organic food.

While we waited for all of the above to hopefully give Blue a seizure-free life, a truly comforting presence was the GRRMF network. Our foster coordinator answered my 1 AM email after his first seizure filled day. I was wide awake and filled with anxiety, but I never thought that I would get an

immediate and understanding answer. We received lots of advice from different team members about things that worked for other goldens and we were put in touch with a GRRMF sanctuary dog's parent, who was tremendously helpful in those early days and months. I hope that someday I will be able to pay it forward by being there for someone else in a similar situation.

The awesome part is that Blue has not had a seizure since August 2018. He enjoys hiking in the woods and walks in our neighborhood, especially if he sees his skinny-legged girlfriend (a greyhound). Blue is a 78-pound lap dog with Dad in the man cave recliner and a snuggle bug on the couch with me for belly rubs. He has toured the Florida Caverns and camped at Mistletoe State Park (GA) and Pennekamp (Key Largo). His favorite part of traveling is picking out memorabilia patches for his vest! Blue is exactly the dog that our hearts longed for and, to us, he is the epitome of all that is Golden."

REUNION CENTRAL

Our 2019 GoldenFest at Ralph V. Chisholm Park in St. Cloud on March 2 was a huge success with many GRRMF alums and their families enjoying the beautiful weather and a full schedule of activities. We are thankful to the Naval Sea Cadets from the American Pride Squadron who enjoyed interacting with our goldens and supporting us throughout the day. Those attending had the opportunity to meet our volunteer coordinators who were on hand to answer questions about our rescue organization and to have a family photo taken at the Springtime photo booth manned by our wonderful volunteer photographer Michael Eliassen. Highlights of the day's activities are on pages 2-4.

GRRMF CONTACT INFORMATION

PO Box 1449
Goldenrod, FL 32733

www.grrmf.org
info@grrmf.org

Hotline: 407.332.2840
Fax: 888.408.5520



CANINE CPR AND FIRST AID TIPS

by Cindy Snedeker

Emily Shiver from Pet Emergency Education in Orlando gave an informative talk on CPR techniques and helpful first aid tips at the GoldenFest. Since there are several areas to cover in CPR and first aid, Emily chose to speak about one common in the Florida heat: hyperthermia or over heating of your canine companion. Hyperthermia happens when a dog's body temperature reaches 105-107 degrees F and can cause brain injury. Cooling the dog too fast or improperly can cause other medical problems, like seizures and shock, and even with veterinary intervention only a small percentage of dogs will survive. Correct procedures for treating hyperthermia and other pet emergencies are covered in the Pet Emergency Education Classes and manual. Educate yourself and be prepared to save a life. GRRMF hosted a class for CPR and First Aid Certification on May 11, 2019 in Orlando and will host another on August 3, 2019 in Largo. Pre-registration is required and GRRMF receives 20% of the registration cost. Visit our website for more information.



HEARTS OF GOLD THERAPY TEAM

Co-Coordinator Ginger was available throughout the day to answer questions about the new Hearts of Gold therapy team program and the qualities that make a good therapy dog. Our program is growing every month with new pet therapy teams being certified under Project PUP's



program. All GRRMF alums, as well as GRRMF volunteers with dogs already certified with Project PUP, are welcome to join our Hearts of Gold therapy team. GRRMF sponsored pre-screening events are being held at the Largo Public Library (Tampa area) to assist those interested in therapy work by offering helpful tips and one-on-one feedback to prepare for the final evaluation testing with Project PUP. We are searching for pre-screening sites in the Orlando/Melbourne area to meet demands. With expansion comes the need for volunteers to work behind the scenes in researching pre-screening space, administrative duties, facility management, and role-playing at the different mock testing stations. If you are interested in raising your paws to help us with these important start-up tasks and have a GRRMF volunteer application on file, please contact coordinators Bambi and Ginger at GRRMFTherapypups@grrmf.org. More information about our Hearts of Gold therapy program and upcoming pre-screening dates can be found on our website at www.grrmf.org/volunteer/canine-volunteers/grrmf-hearts-of-gold/

ASK A TRAINER by Jamie Demsky

At our GoldenFest reunion, three expert force free trainers donated their time and advice to help our families learn the best way to teach their pets good behavior. We are very thankful to each trainer for volunteering their time and talent at this event and their ongoing support of training GRRMF dogs throughout the year. Check out the "Learn" section on our website at www.grrmf.org for more details on the following tips and other information from the trainers.



Susan Kendrick, Bowser College, demonstrated the proper way to fit a harness and explained the importance of loose leash walking. Since dogs naturally walk faster than us, Susan suggested letting your dog blow off some steam before walking them. Have them run around the backyard chasing a toy then break out the leash and go for a walk.



Jan Casey, Golden Hearts Dog Training, tackled the always-popular issues of puppy training. One question was how to stop a puppy from nipping at hand and fingers. Jan encouraged the owner to redirect their puppy to toys that are safe to chew and the positive results of using timeout.



Katie Obringer, For Paws & Noses, was asked about stress, separation anxiety and reacting to other dogs while on a walk. Katie discussed the importance of setting your dog for success by being prepared for these situations and managing them. For example, find a time to walk your dog when you'll run into fewer distractions.

BLESSING OF THE GOLDENS by Ann Reyes

This was my first time attending the GoldenFest reunion and it was an incredible experience to walk into the park and be greeted by a sea of goldens. My husband Erich, my son Darren and myself volunteered to assist at this event with our two goldens, Murphy and Jemy. At the welcome table you picked two items for your Goodie bag, all golden related of course!!! There were vendors selling golden jewelry, T-shirts and lots of miscellaneous items - all adorable and so affordable. Murphy and Jemy were so excited with all the activity going on around them. The pavilion provided excellent shade and was large enough to accommodate all the goldens and their human parents. We listened to very informative talks about the rescue organization, but my favorite part of the afternoon was the Blessing of the Goldens. My husband and I walked around and had everybody fill out a card with their golden's name on it to be included in the blessing. What a beautiful sight watching the line grow longer and longer as the goldens waited their turn for their individual blessing by Pastor Dave. This is an event not to be missed next year. Watch for your "Tales of Gold" newsletter with next year's date.



OLDEST FOUR-LEGGED ATTENDEE

Our "guest of honor" at the GoldenFest reunion was 17-year-old Terra Faith (#1571) who was rescued as a two-year-old stray from Jacksonville in 2005. The shelter had her on their euthanasia list as they could not care for her many ailments and also thought she could be pregnant - GRRMF to the rescue! Terra arrived weighing about 38 pounds, had every parasite known to man including heartworms, and was VERY pregnant. A week later, she delivered 10 babies and 8 survived - 4 short hair black pups, 3 black and white longer hair pups and one that looked like a flat coat with long black hair. Not one pup had a single golden hair on their body as later DNA testing of one sibling, Dora Faith, confirmed Boxer, Bichon, American Stafford and Irish Wolfhound ancestry. Terra's pups turned fourteen on February 16 and GRRMF still has contact

with two siblings – Dora Faith (who can be seen at many West Coast events) and Smudgie. It was wonderful to see Terra at the GoldenFest on March 3rd and the precious photo of her taken in the photo booth showed the joy of her life so truly deserved. Such a little gift to us and now to the angels as we sadly learned little Terra went to the bridge on April 9. Fly free sweet momma.



DOGOLYMPICS

The spotlight was on our four-legged athletes who displayed perfect "doggie sportsmanship" while competing for first, second and third place in two events. We're not sure who had the most fun - the cheering spectators, fur competitors or parents. Congratulations to our winners.

POPCORN TOSS

Age	Place	Dog Name
0-4 years	1st	Margo Persons
0-4 years	2nd	Cooper Forrester
0-4 years	2nd	Abby Braun
0-4 years	3rd	Elle Harris
0-4 years	3rd	Tessa Kennon
5-7 years	1st	Riley Gerrity
8+ years	1st	Pancake Woster
8+ years	2nd	Bailey Bernick
8+ years	3rd	Gracie Lee

SIT AND STAY

Age	Place	Dog Name
0-4 years	1st	Cooper Forrester
0-4 years	2nd	Emma Escobar
0-4 years	3rd	Abby Braun
5-7 years	1st	Riley Gerrity
5-7 years	2nd	Minnie Coffman
8+ years	1st	Bailey Bernick
8+ years	2nd	Pancake Woster
8+ years	3rd	Gracie Lee
8+ years	3rd	Charlie Morlock

TAURINE DEFICIENCY ALERT by Jamie Demsky and Ellen Steiger

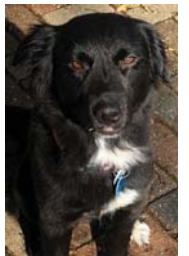
The popular trend of feeding dogs grain free food is creating a deadly disorder as it is felt that the grain free foods may play a major part in taurine deficiency. Peas, beans, pea starch, legumes, potatoes and sweet potatoes have replaced the grains as the carbohydrate in most dog foods. These block the function of taurine. The FDA issued an alert in 2018 warning these diets can lead to a taurine deficiency which can cause a serious heart disease called dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM). DCM is a disease that results in an enlarged heart, and may lead to sudden cardiac death. If you are currently feeding your golden a grain free diet, consult your veterinary immediately to have them tested. With early diagnosis and treatment, the deficiency can be reversed. An article posted by Golden Retriever Club of America (GRCA.org) can be found under their "Health" tab and on our web site at www.grrmf.org/news/taurine-and-grain-free-information/

5 STAR FOSTERS

by Kirsten Brown and Bambi Anderson-Ivers

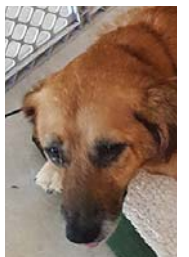
Team Schaefer

George is one of GRRMF's newer fosters and has an understanding of the importance of allowing a dog to feel safe in his home. He is able to identify the dog's needs and can meet every dog right where they are. His mastery is calming even the most fearful dog with his gentle voice and actions. Thank you, George, for raising your paws to help our precious pups!



Team McGovern

Marcia is a long time foster who is given the most medically challenged special needs dogs entering rescue. She currently is fostering one who was extremely sick upon arrival and has again been instrumental in restoring health and happiness to her precious foster. Words cannot express our thanks for her valuable knowledge and care of these dogs who need an awesome advocate like Marcia!



**Happy Mother's Day
from all our
GRRMF rescues!**



THANK YOU! DONATIONS JANUARY - MARCH 2019

GENERAL DONATION

Ade, Marilyn
Adler, Jeffrey
Allen, Peggy C
& Dixon, Steve
Anderson, Lori
Atwell, Caprice
Auger, Donna
Barnes, Susan
Barton, LTC D. Casey
& Adriene
Bennett, Cynthia
Billue, Pamela
Bond, Nancy
Booth, William & Judith
Buckley, Tom & Linda
Buckley, Vicki
Candler, Thomas
Charron, Dorothy E
Corrody, Kathleen
Covert, Chris
D'Alessandro, Melinda
English, Kaitlynn Shay
Finch, Debra J.
Flores, Allison
Francis, Nancy
Geisinger, Barbara
Gregory, Douglas
Hamel, Susan
Jackson, Joshua
Jacobs, Jean E
Jewell, Maureen & Bradley
Johnson, Frederick W
Juliano, Marcus
Keilholtz, Joseph
Keller, Cliff & Karen
Lee, Sarah
Leslie, Alisee
Lewis, Ann
Loft, Allison
Marcus, Matthew
Mason, Laura
McAnally, Michael
Mckenzie, Graham
McLaughlin, Luella
McMillan, John
Mid Florida
Golden Retriever Club
Middleton, Vicki
Murphy, James & Sue

Network for Good
O's 20/20
Pagano, Ron
Parker, Jeanie
Peaden, Christopher
Phillips, William
Pinnow, Martha A
Powers, Michelle
Rey, Jessica
Rogers, Shelley
Sanczyk, Edna
Sprague, Robert
Sterling, Diana
Stone-Crutchfield, Christine
Storms, Jane L
Stringer, Mary Jennifer
Sykes, Olinda
Tyler, Bekki
Wood, Nancy

IN HONOR OF

Ackerman, Nancy J,
for Duke
Ahlheim, Joan,
for Jackson & Joy
Arrich, Kathleen & Richard,
for Chloe, Sadie,
Honey, Molly
Gonzalez, Carmen M,
for Sandy
Harkins, Nancy,
for Dorothy Morris
Hasbach, Gary,
for Rusty Nathan
Kard, Charles & Carole,
for Cruncher
Krim, Jane, for Yvette
Pierson, Maureen,
for Luke Gonzales
Reimer, Donna,
for Cathy Schultz
Ruggeri, Isabella,
for Susan Smith
Sellers, Cathleen,
for James Parker
Sinibaldi, Lenore
Snedeker, Cindy,
for Barbara Burgner
Sublet, Bob & Ginny,
for Amber Jenna
Sykes, Olinda, for Wilson

IN MEMORY OF

Auger, Donna & Michael,
for Mattie & Max
Barnes, Susan
Bogle, Ralph
Burgess, Wayne,
for Murphy & Kelsey
Dalton, Penny, for Molly
Davis, Mike & Karen,
for Dorothy Morris
Dishozy, Barbara,
for Jake I, Jake II,
Hunter I, Hunter II
Drapo, Deborah A,
for Tim Ivers
Drapo, Deborah,
for Robert Drapo
Forsberg, Carol,
for Bill McClelland
Forsberg, Carol, for Tim Ivers
Frierson, Ernie & Beth,
for Sandy McGrath
Haszard, Sharon,
for James Parker
Heusner, Henry & Kitty,
for Ted Hoffman
Jackson, Joshua
Jewell, Maureen
Jones, Anna
Mammolito, Kathleen,
for Dorothy Morris
McAnally, Michael,
for Maggie Mae
McClelland, Sylvia,
for Bill McClelland
Mcneil, Jennifer, for Cooper
Mitra, Koushik, for Pluto
Mitzel, John
Myers, Dorothy & Clarence J,
for Dorothy Morris
Neale, Donna,
for Simon Angle
Perkins, Bill & Pat,
for Dorothy Morris
Reiney, Beth,
for Gabe Reiney
Rice, Terry S, for Kiltie Lin
Sykes, Olinda, for Jefferson
Varner, MaryBeth,
for Dorothy Morris

Vincent, Ginger & George,
for Abby
Vincent, Ginger & George,
for Tim Ivers
Walsh, William & Barbara,
for Augie

WOODY FUND

Alfson, John & Lynda,
for Pumpkin In Memory
of Terry T
Alfson, Lynda & John,
for Sonny In Honor
of Sunnie, Sugar & Joy
Buckley, Tom & Linda
Dowdle, Jeanne, for Pumpkin
Dunne, Christa, for Pumpkin
Forsberg, Carol, for Lucy
Forsberg, Carol, for Pumpkin
Gamelin, Dennis,
for Pumpkin
Gruhler, Alfred J.
Hornick, Victoria,
for Pumpkin
Hunter III, Daniel
Klemetti, Stacy, for Pumpkin
Ladney, Judy,
for Sanctuary dogs
McLaughlin, Beverly, for Leo
Mitzel, John, for Pumpkin
Pflaumer, Arlene
Sprague, Rob, for Pumpkin
Steiger, Ellen, for Miley
Steiger, Ellen, for Pumpkin
Sublet, Bob & Ginny,
for Amber Jenna
Taylor, Donna, for Pumpkin

GIFTS IN KIND

Coffman, MaryLou
Giffin, Sharon
Turnage, Bob
Wettersten, Bonnie
Wertz, Kimberlee

RAINBOW BRIDGE

- John and Lynda Alfson – Sugar
- Lindsey Boetsch – Annie
- Janice and Ralph Bogle – Felton
- Alex Daly – Mason
- Lou and Carol Glaros – Princess
- Lysee Kierstein – Abby
- Diane and Mark Kingman – Clementine

- Michael Merritt – Charlie
- Donna and Geoff O'Connell – Murphy
- Bill and Pam Phillips – Terra
- Margy and Frank Santino – Dixie Belle
- Jenna Saxton – Faith
- Brenda and Tom Sheehy – Rocky
- Tom Wiegand – Duke



2018 GRRMF VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARDS

GRRMF extends our heartfelt gratitude to all of our wonderful volunteers who give so much of themselves and expect so little in return. The list of volunteers below are recognized for their passion and commitment made through their 2018 volunteering efforts to save our goldens.

HEARTS OF GOLD



Donna Auger



Jeanne Dowdle

ABOVE AND BEYOND



Michael and Cindy Snedeker

TOP DOGS

Lynda Alfson – Phone Screen,
Home Visit & Admin
Melanie and Neil Bontrager –
Fostering
Kathy Byrne – Application
Support & Admin
Jan Casey – Transportation
Dawn and Dennis Gamelin –
Fostering
Maria Colombo-Forsberg –
Home Visit
Charlotte Conley – Phone
Screen & Home Visit
Phil Doherty – Transportation
Paul Eckstein – Phone Screen
Gloria Hale – Phone Screen
Lyn Holliday – Media
Stacy Klemetti – Fostering
Cynthia Knopka – Medical
Records & Microchip

Chris Manley – Transportation
Jack Norvig – Transportation
Mary Ann and Louis Poisson
– Fostering
Cathy Schultz – Phone Screen
& Fundraising
Bill and Pat Shepard –
Transportation & Events
Diana and Raymond Sterling –
Fostering
Janet Sturman – Intake,
Adoption & Fundraising
Janet Thompson – Events
& Fundraising
Kris Viles – Home Visit
& Volunteer Support
Ginger Vincent – Home Visit
& Media

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT by Lyn Holiday

Volunteer: Bill and Pat Shepard (Husband and Wife Volunteer Team)

Found out about GRRMF: This dynamic duo first learned about GRRMF when they met a group of volunteers at a local dog event. They adopted their first golden from Pinellas County SPCA in 1990 and have been golden lovers, adopters and volunteers for both organizations since.

Length of Time Volunteering so Far: 16 years

GRRMF Volunteer Career: West Coast Event Coordinators, Golden Transporters

Continued Commitment: This energetic couple coordinates GRRMF events for the west coast. Not only do they set up and tear down the education table, including a 10x10 tent each time (filled with all the golden goodies and educational material) but they round up volunteers to help. They ensure professional representation of GRRMF to the public by participating in area dog events to educate the community. They are always on the lookout for wonderful donors to continue to help treat as many dogs as possible."

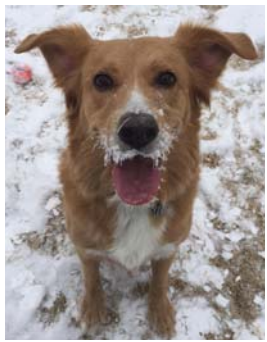
To this day, they will drop everything when they get a GRRMF transport call to help a golden on their journey. Their van is decked out to be very dog friendly with soft beds, securing clips and long leashes for safety. Pat sits in the back seat with each pup ensuring they get lots of love and attention while Bill drives many miles to guarantee the dog safely reaches the next transporter or intake vet.

Most Memorable Moment: All transports are special, but the one they cherish most was after a hurricane several years ago. A van full of dogs from one of the flooded shelters was arriving in Tampa and GRRMF wanted to assist by transporting nine dogs/puppies to Sarasota. Being needed in the face of a disaster was most memorable for this kindhearted couple.

Advice to Potential Volunteer: Join us in spreading the word about this beloved breed and rescue. Due to their previous experiences, your help is needed to provide the important care our pups need prior to being placed in a wonderful forever home.



Adoption Stories



Kesha Marilyn (now Charlotte)
Charlotte's new furever family was excited to adopt her after her previous owners could no longer provide for her care. "Expressive and tail wagging" are just two ways Charlotte's family describes their energetic golden. Charlotte is a 55-pound "cuddle-bug" who greets people by burying her head into a leg or an arm looking for that perfect head rub. Besides chasing tennis balls and chewing on bones, Charlotte has a blast chasing snowballs in her new Colorado home. Charlotte's most recent accomplishment is completing her Canine Good Citizen (CGC) certification.

Abby Madeira

Sue and Alan were thrilled to welcome young Abby into their home when her previous owner could no longer care for a puppy. Abby needed to be housebroken and learn to be a little sister to ten-year-old Chase, also a Golden. Eventually, Chase happily let Abby become the alpha in the house. Besides playing with Chase, Abby loves to chase squirrels, carry big sticks to the patio, and go on long walks with her dad. When she is tired out, Abby hops in Mom's lap, just looking for a little petting.



Irish Aster (now Buddy)
Irish Aster, now Buddy the Budman, wears a cape of love as a real hero to his family, rescuing them in their time of need. Buddy arrived with a short history of seizures, but Howard stood by his golden boy and embraced him through his medical events. The seizures are less often and well managed by his dad. Buddy now

stands by dad as one of their family members struggles with serious health issues. Happy spirited, smart, with plenty of stuffies he can pick out by name, this boy might just learn how to select beverages out of the 'fridge' for his family!



Jett Jasper

"When you reach for the leash, Jett hops like a bunny and circles exactly three times before settling down to go for a walk," reports Susan and Michael. Although he is a big boy, Jett is the pussycat of the household and will curl up near Dad. "He is very dark brown and blends with the wood floor so we have a WHERE'S JETT? sign on the door to remind us

to check where he is laying as it's very easy to trip over him when we come home."

Harvey Dent Sonny

 (now Mr. Harvey)

Typically, a family decides to adopt a dog, right? Well, not in Mr. Harvey's case! Harvey fell in love with his foster family and knew he was home. Now Harvey has a golden retriever sister whom he plays with constantly, three cats and parents who love him dearly. Whether he's chasing a ball, wrestling with his fur sibling or snuggling with his parents, Harvey is incredibly happy. His mom says, "He is such a love bug, we couldn't imagine life without him now!"



Dean Sonny

 (now Deano)

Deano was surrendered when family dynamics changed but he is King of the Castle according to Deneen. "He loves playing catch with his ball and will actually toss it back to you but after about 5 tosses, he's had enough and places the ball back in his toy bin!" At 7:30 every night Deano gets on his blanket and waits for his back and leg massage, and when it's over, he promptly puts himself to bed and the snoring begins. Squeaky toys are his favorite and he enjoys tearing new ones to shreds – "it's the best five minutes of our day!"



Princess Frankie

 (now Piper)

Princess, now Piper (center), completed the family's GRRMF rescue Trifecta by joining Tucker and Chloe. Piper is always smiling, loving her new life and giving hugs to her family. She enjoys adventures on the beach, car rides or any other social events where she can meet new people and dogs. Piper has trouble controlling her excitement when it's time for a walk, as she zoomies around until leaving the house! "She loves to sit outside in the yard and patiently watch the ducks, not disturbing them," reports Kris and Ron.



Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida
Post Office Box 1449
Goldenrod, Florida 32733

Return Service Requested



WHAT'S NEW ON THE WEB?

Feeding your golden

www.grrmf.org/learn/feeding-your-golden/

CPR/First Aid Event (Largo) August 3

www.grrmf.org/event/canine-and-feline-cpr-and-first-aid-certification-class-largo/

Using a head harness for training

www.grrmf.org/head-harness-gentle-leaders/

Please consider making a much needed donation to help save our goldens!

You may donate online at www.grrmf.org or fill out this form and mail it to:
GRRMF - P.O. Box 1449 - Goldenrod, FL 32733. Donations are tax deductible.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Would you prefer to receive your receipt letter by (circle one) **EMAIL** **US MAIL**

I'd like to donate as follows:

\$ _____ General donation \$ _____ Woody Fund for special needs dogs

\$ _____ In honor of : _____

\$ _____ In memory of : _____



Donate

Membership options (circle one): \$25 Regular \$50 Golden Friend \$100 Sponsorship

A copy of the official registration and financial information for Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida Inc., a Florida-based nonprofit corporation, (Registration no. #CH11185), may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free 1-800-help-fla (432-7352) within the state or by visiting 800helpfla.com.
Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state.

28 YEARS OF SAVING GOLDENS -- 3,733 SAVED SINCE 1991
Golden Retriever Rescue Of Mid-Florida